

*graminum* from a hawthorn tree growing beside the B.260 road at LaneEnd, Darent on 18.vi.2000. On 9.vi.2001, the species was swept in abundance from the lower branches of Lombardy Poplar growing in the grounds and nearby grassland of Leigh Technology College, Dartford. Recently, among some insect photographs passed to me for identification by Mrs Pat Allen, was a further example photographed on 27.v.1999 in her garden at Lympne. Finally on 20.vi.2002 a single specimen was found squashed on one of the picnic seats at Grain.

A summary of the known Kent records is presented below.

1840 Harrietsham TQ85 (VC 15) J. F. Stephens; 19.vi.1896 Bearsted TQ75 (VC 15) E. E. Green; 1936 Wye & Crundale Downs TR0949 (VC 15) C. G. Lamb; 1961 Hook Farm, Bromley, TQ413676 (VC 16) P. J. Chandler; 1963 Oakley Farm Bromley TQ4166 (VC 16) P. J. Chandler; 11.vi.1904 Huntingfield TQ95 (not TR05 as stated by Ismay) (VC 15) A.J. Chitty; 8.vi.1909 Dartford TQ57 (VC 16) J. W. Yerbury; 13.vi.1909 Dartford TQ57 (VC 16) J.W. Yerbury; 14.vi.1912 Dartford TQ57 (VC 16) J. W. Yerbury; vii.1932 Port Victoria, Grain TQ87 (VC 16) H.St. John K. Donisthorpe; 30.vi.1941 Ashford TR0044 (VC 15) G. Waller; 1.vi.1942 Ashford TR0044 (VC 15) G. Waller; 6.vi.1946 Eltham TQ47 (VC 16) H.W. Andrews; 11.vi.1946 Eltham TQ47 (VC 16) H. W. Andrews; 30.v.1949 Boughton Aluph TR04 (VC 15) H.W. Miles; 4.vi.1956 Sittingbourne TQ96 (VC 15) J.C. Felton; 13.vi.1992 Kingsnorth TQ8173 (VC 16) L. Clemons; 6.vi.1993 Grain TQ8877 (VC 16) L. Clemons; 5.vii.1995 Northfleet TQ6173 (VC 16) C.W. Plant; 6.vi.1996 Hither Green TQ3974 (VC 16 not 17 as stated by Ismay ) R. A. Jones; 7.vii.1996 Church Marshes, Milton TQ9165 (In the Appendix Ismay gave the grid reference as TQ913655, presumably because he had visited the site. However the grid reference given on page 13 was TQ913654) (VC 15) L. Clemons (Recorder not recorded by Ismay); 15.v.1999 Preston Court TR242605 (VC 15) L. Clemons; 14.vi.1999 Grain TQ883772 (VC 16) J.W. Ismay; 12.vi.1999 Horton Kirby TQ558684 (VC 16) L. Clemons; 20.v.2000 Grain TQ888771 (VC 16) L. Clemons; 20.v.2000 Grain TQ892763 (VC 16) L. Clemons; 18.vi.2000 Lane End, Darent TQ571711 (VC 16) L. Clemons; 27.v.1999 Walnut Tree Cottage, Lympne TR12253540 (VC 15) P. Allen; 9.vi.2001 Dartford; Leigh Technology College. TQ55157331 (VC 16) L. Clemons; 9.vi.2001 Dartford; scrub and grassland west of Leigh Technology College. TQ54937328 (VC 16) L. Clemons; 20.vi.2002 Grain TQ891767 (VC16) L. Clemons.– LAURENCE CLEMONS, 14 St. John's Avenue, Sittingbourne, Kent ME10 4NE.

### **A record of the Buff Footman *Eilema depressa* Esper (Lep.: Arctiidae) from Killarney, Co. Kerry**

John Lavery and I visited Derrycunihy Wood, Killarney, on 17.v.1999, to beat the oaks for Lepidoptera and Coleoptera and it was while engaged in this activity that a single larva of *Eilema depressa* (= *deplana* (Esper)), was dislodged from a lichen-covered oak bough. Possible identification was possible by reference to Porter's *Colour Identification of Caterpillars of the British Isles* (1997). Unfortunately, the larva did not survive more than a few days, even though frass was noted in the container in which it was retained.

This species' limited occurrence in Ireland may be gauged from the distribution cited by Heath et al. (1983, *Moths and Butterflies of Great Britain & Ireland*, 9) and by E. S. A. Baynes who, in his *Revised Catalogue of Irish Macrolepidoptera* (1964), stated that it is "... extremely rare and, so far, only recorded from the Killarney area of Co. Kerry". Records are apparently quite scarce and Baynes noted the following: "Donovan mentions a specimen taken by Allen and identified by Prout, and records a total of five ab. *ochreola* Hb. taken by himself, two of which were obtained on 27.vii.1936. The latest record is of nine moths taken at light in the Tore area of Killarney between 8 and 9.vii.1939 and eight more in 1944 (B. P. Beirne and A. A. Lisney). These insects were of the orange buff form, ab. *unicolour* Bankes." The late Raymond F. Haynes, who collected Lepidoptera extensively in the Killarney district for many years, left an unpublished manuscript *Lepidoptera of the Killarney District* which contains a wealth of information on the area, has repeated the above records but also noted "... my own specimens were bred from larvae which I beat from lichens growing on trees in the Muckcross Demesne near the Abbey ruins". However, no dates are given.

Quite recently, I came across a further reference to this species in an article by R. Fairclough (*Ent. Rec.*, 80), entitled "*Luperina nickerlii* in the Dingle Peninsula, August 1967". Fairclough stated that on 29 August 1967 "... we pitched our sheets in Tore Woods where a cold clear night did not give us much idea of the local Lepidoptera. We had seventeen species the only two of interest being one *Atethmia xerampelina* Esp. and a number of large yellow *Eilema deplana* Esp".— MICHAEL O'SULLIVAN, 20 St James Gardens, Killorglin, Co. Kerry, Ireland.

### *Stomorhina lunata* (Fabr.) (Dipt.: Calliphoridae) in north-west Kent

The locust parasitoid *Stomorhina lunata* is regarded as an occasional vagrant into north-west Europe. Rognes (1991, Blowflies (Diptera, Calliphoridae) of Fennoscandia and Denmark. *Fauna Entomologica Scandinavica* 24), summarised its distribution as "widely distributed in southern Palaearctic (also northern parts of France, and occasionally Great Britain, but not breeding there) and all of Afrotropical Region; in Oriental Region only northern parts; in the Nearctic common on the island of Bermuda, but not elsewhere". He stated that in Fennoscandia the only known record was of a single male captured on a flower-head of *Tagetes* in the Helsinki Botanical garden on 29.ix.1844.

The species was apparently first recorded in Britain at Christchurch on 3.viii.1896 by R. C. Bradley (Wainwright, C. J. 1949, *J. Soc. Br. Entomology* 3: 97-98), and Jenkinson (1901, *Ent. Mon. Mag.* 37: 299-300) stated "I have secured five specimens this year. I took one female at Hindon, near Salisbury, on August 30th. Males occurred at Lyndhurst, June 26th; Paul, July 26th (Miss Allard); Cambridge, September 15th; Cambridge, September 25th (Miss Haynes). Nearly all were on flowers of Compositae; they sit with the wings overlapping, and so have a pointed look behind. It is an odd looking insect". As Miss Allard was Jenkinson's housekeeper it is assumed that the July 26th specimen was taken in his garden at